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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 371 of PCT/JP2004/016725
Applicant : Juichi KASAI
Filed : Herewith
TC/A.U. : Not Yet Assigned
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 22 MAY 2006

Docket No. : 1796-162
Customer No. : 06449
Confirmation No. : Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of the United States Patent
and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant submits herewith information that the Office may wish to consider in examination of the subject application. Materials submitted for consideration are listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

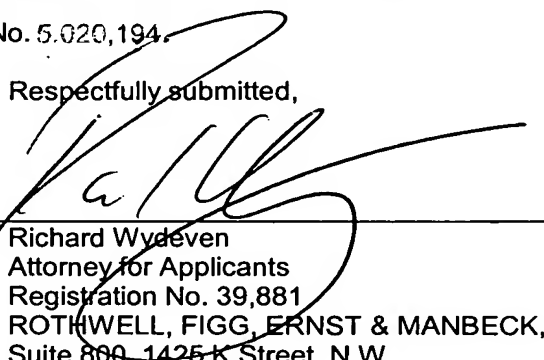
Also attached is an international search report (ISR) in which all or some of the non-English documents have been cited. Please also refer to the specification of the subject application for a discussion of the relevance of the following non-English documents:

JP2000-262307, JP2938784, JP09-323708, JP11-198233, WO02/38459 A1, and WO03/022697 A1.

For non-English reference JP2002-177020 and WO 02/47993 please refer to the U.S. equivalent U.S. Publication No. 2004/045138 A1. For non-English reference JP05-505325 please refer to U.S. Patent No. 5,020,194.

Respectfully submitted,

By


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Enclosure(s): International Search Report
(11) Cited References

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				<i>Complete if Known</i>			
				Application Number	371 of PCT/JP2004/016725		
				Filing Date	He 10/580233		
				First Named Inventor	Juichi KASAI		
				Group Art Unit			
				Examiner Name			
				Confirmation No.			
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	1796-162		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY		
		Number	Kind Code ²				
	1	5007143		HERRINGTON	04-16-1991		
	2	5020194		HERRINGTON et al.	06-04-1991		
	3	6293701	B1	TOMIC	09-25-2001		
	4	2004/045138	A1	KASAI	03-11-2004		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ⁵ Code			
		JP	3000905		KINJO	06-01-1994	
		JP	2938784	B2	SHOWA HIGHPOLYMER CO LTD	06-11-1999	AB
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		WO	03/022697	A1	SHOWA HIGHPOLYMER CO LTD	03-20-2003	AB
Examiner Signature					Date Considered		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code.

⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. AB indicates that only an English language abstract is attached.